

Appl. No. : 10/776,025
Filed : February 10, 2004

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed June 21, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated Kunz (U.S. Patent No. 5,501,504). The Examiner allowed claim 4, but objected to it for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant has amended the present application in view of the foregoing issues raised by the Examiner.

Amendment to the Claims

Applicant has canceled claims 3 and 4 without prejudice. Applicant has added new dependent claims 7-9 for reasons discussed below.

Applicant has amended independent claim 2 to include limitations that were generally addressed in claims 3 and 4. Unlike the now-canceled claim 4, however, a “cutout” limitation, as incorporated into claim 2, does not need to be along the top edge of a bulkhead panel. As shown by the two rear-most example bulkhead panels 120 in Figure 2 of this Application, a cutout can be either along the top or bottom edge of the bulkhead panel. New added dependent claims 7 and 8 address these two configurations.

Applicant further notes that “side edges” of the cutout can have folds that facilitate attachment of the side edges to the outermost surfaces of the chassis members. This feature is addressed by the new added claim 9.

Applicant notes that the amended form of claim 2, and the new added claims 7-9, are supported in the specification. For example, at least Figure 2 and paragraphs 0029-0030 provide support for the various amended and added claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Based on Kunz

The Examiner rejected independent claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kunz. Applicant submits that the limitations of the amended form of claim 2 are neither disclosed nor suggested by Kunz.

Rejected claims 5 and 6, and new added claims 7-9 are dependent upon claim 2 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons given above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 2, 5-9 be allowed.

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Summary

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that this Application is now in a condition ready for allowance and respectfully requests the prompt allowance of the same. Should there be any impediment to the allowance of this application that could be resolved by a telephone call, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number shown below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 9-21-05

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